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CHURCHES INCREASE STRONG SUPPORT FOR CONSTRUCTIVE MUTUAL AID AND TRADE

In several developments in recent weeks, the churches have brought increasing support for expanding and improving mutual aid and for continuing to develop reciprocal and other trade policies which will help in world economic development.

The survival of the United States and our total world civilization depends on non-military approaches to world peace, declared Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, President of the National Council of Churches, speaking to a bipartisan conference of national leaders in Washington, D.C. on February 25. He appealed to the leaders of government "to devise some other better means of national survival than bomb, rocketry and missiles. We must substitute a new faith and a new spirit for our present "obsession with military defense," as our main reliance, he said. He asked how the world can be expected to believe in our peaceful intentions when 45 billion dollars are appropriated for a military budget and a relatively few hundreds of millions of dollars for non-military economic development and technical assistance. Dr. Dahlberg cited the Great Commission of Christians, suggesting that it also includes these works: To heal the sick, feed the hungry, clothe the naked and bind up the broken hearted.

He urged "giant steps of boldly imaginative daring and dramatic character" along the lines of the International Development Advisory Board headed by Eric Johnston. Dr. Dahlberg called for a mutual aid plan which would be "a program of massive reconciliation."

On the following day the General Board of the National Council of Churches took spontaneous action to reinforce the Council's continuing support of constructive mutual aid programs. Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill, former President of the National Council of Churches, who had given the benediction following President Eisenhower's address at the meeting on February 25, reported on that meeting and called for more support by the churches for mutual aid. The General Board took two actions on this matter: The first commended the White House for calling a bipartisan conference including representatives of the major religious faiths and commended the political leaders of both parties for their participation. The second action was this:

"That in the light of our Christian obligation to care for our neighbors throughout the world, the National Council of the Churches

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of Christ in the U.S.A. strongly supports an expanded non-military program of Mutual Aid and Programs for Reciprocal Foreign Trade."

The churches have also been active in relation to the government processes in Washington. In recent months, discussions have been held on matters of foreign economic policy with the Secretary of State, with other officials in the Administration and with members of Congress. Representatives of the churches have also appeared in hearings before committees of Congress.

Testifying in favor of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements, two witnesses represented the churches in the National Council in hearings of the House Ways and Means Committee: Dr. Roy Blough, of Columbia University, who has served as economic advisor to the President of the United States and to the United Nations, testified on February 26. Mrs. Esther W. Hymer, Director of Christian World Relations for United Church Women, testified on March 3.

Testifying in favor of increasing and improving constructive mutual aid programs, the Hon. Charles P. Taft, nationally known churchman and public leader, as Vice-President of the N.C.C. represented the concerns of the churches in hearings of the House Foreign Affairs Committee on March 14.

High Administration officers and members of Congress have strongly stressed the fact that actions at top national levels and in Washington by church bodies must be matched at the "grass roots" by actions of local church bodies and individual church members expressing their views now to their Senators and Congressmen in person, by telephone, by telegraph, and especially by letters. In major efforts to get church people on the local level to express to their Congressmen their concerns and convictions on foreign economic policy, including both aid and trade, programs have been under way for several weeks in the National Council of Churches, with many units coordinating their work through the Department of International Affairs, and with cooperating denominations coordinating their work in publications and field operations. As a result of all this cooperative effort, within recent weeks mailings have gone out to all state and local councils of churches and to thousands of key workers in denominations. During the next few weeks Fact Sheets on Foreign Economic Policy are being sent to church leaders in position to act on such information, and to interested church members.

Another aspect of the efforts of the churches in support from church people was in direct correspondence with every member of the House and Senate. The statements of the General Assembly of the National Council of Churches on "Some Hopes and Concerns of the Churches in the Nuclear-Space Age," and "International Aid and Trade," were sent with a covering letter emphasizing the judgments of the churches that more than military and scientific responses are necessary in the new nuclear-space era, that there must also be massive economic, diplomatic, cultural, psychological, and moral and spiritual initiatives by the government and the people of the United States at this crucial moment of history.

A new feature in the efforts of the churches this year to support constructive mutual aid policies and programs of the government is the coordination of field work by denominational executives in Christian social education and action through councils of churches in a number of states from coast to coast. These meetings with key leaders are planned to bring a clearer understanding of what constructive mutual aid is and what it can become and to bring expressed support for such policies and programs from church-people across the country. Emphasizing the importance of people writing to their Congressmen, a member of Congress recently said that if five people from every church in the United States were to write in demanding a more enlightened foreign policy, they could change the whole climate in Washington.

PRE-SUMMIT CONSIDERATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS OCCUPY CURRENT INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION

Present opinions from most quarters, whether they like the idea, hold that a Summit Meeting has become almost inevitable. The major questions now seem to be, not whether, but what kind, how approached, what agenda, when where-- and with what possible results.

One suggestion for procedure was proposed by the Hon. Ernest A. Gross, former U.S. Ambassador to the UN. In a letter to The New York Times, March 5, he suggested a private meeting of the UN Security Council for the foreign ministers, under Article 28 of the UN Charter. He cited advantages of such a meeting: "First, it would reaffirm the Security Council's primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. Secondly, the notion of periodic meetings is important because all experience points to the need for continuous, rather than one-shot, efforts to break deadlocks with the Soviets. Thirdly, and in some respects most important of all, the adoption of an agenda in the Council is a 'procedural' matter not subject to Soviet veto." Mr. Gross suggests that the Soviets now, worse than casting a veto within the Security Council, are "running wild with the veto outside the U.N., by laying down their own conditions as to who may participate and what the agenda will be. Hence, they are not merely vetoing action by the Security Council. In effect, they are being permitted to veto the Council itself." Mr. Gross doubts there is much hope in such developments.

Tremendous pressures have been building in many parts of the world for a meeting at the summit, many stemming from the Soviet Union. Having declared it would no longer discuss disarmament in the UN Disarmament Sub-committee or Commission, the U.S.S.R. conducted a world-wide campaign for a summit conference. Multitudes in the world feel that something must be done to break international stalemate in a nuclear-space era that has taken on an increasingly threatening meaning with new developments in missiles and rockets. So there were ready responses to the insistent Soviet pressures and also independent initiatives in many parts of the world for a summit conference. However, many observers feel that, all things considered, the present move to the summit is weighted toward Soviet advantage, unless the U.S.A. comes up with some most impressive, acceptable and workable new proposals before or at such a session.

Views between the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. differ in these ways: The Soviets want a big summit meeting, largely unprepared in substance, to produce declarations on general issues, including a non-aggression pact, a ban on nuclear tests, and if possible, on nuclear bombs (interestingly, at this very time the U.S.S.R. is conducting a series of nuclear tests), a mutual renunciation of force in the Middle East, and a neutralized, nuclear-free zone in Central Europe; they would also discuss control of space under the UN, if the question of military bases is related to that discussion. The U.S.A. has indicated the following, if there must be a summit meeting: Agreements largely worked out at lower levels first, which could be ratified by the heads of state; discussion of German unification (the Bonn Government withdraw insistence on that as an agenda item-- if there is promise of effective disarmament); the status of the eastern European countries; change of the veto in the UN Security Council; space control under the UN and other arms control questions. Opinions seem to be converging, that disarmament will finally be the major issue on the agenda, including questions of nuclear tests and weapons. It is reported that preparatory work is going forward in various governments, and some new ideas may come from both sides.

While the Soviets say they will not reopen disarmament negotiations in the UN Commission or Security Council, they have not ruled out action in the Council to approve a summit conference; the U.S.A. has said, no disarmament talks should be held at the summit without establishing a "proper link" with the UN.

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER HAILS CHURCHES' OVERSEAS RELIEF WORK: CWS AND THREE R'S

Calling the overseas relief work of the major religious faiths "a great mission," President Eisenhower this month sent congratulations and best wishes for the "One Great Hour of Sharing" appeal to Church World Service. Identical messages went from the White House to Catholic Relief Services and the United Jewish Appeal. "These programs of voluntary service," the President wrote, "are an inspiring example of the overall effort of our people -- as individuals and as a nation -- to build a future in which the peoples of this earth can live together in strength and friendship."

Through Church World Service, Protestant and Orthodox Churches in the U.S. respond to the calls of suffering humanity regardless of race, color or creed, with food, clothing, medicine and other forms of support, both spiritual and material. To meet these needs, a yearly United Appeal of 35 denominations constituent to CWS is made in "One Great Hour of Sharing." Many denominations held special services on March 16. Others will hold them at different times in the year. The United Appeal is in its tenth year. It is expected to raise in 1958 about \$10,400,000 of which approximately three-fifths will be spent through denominations and two-fifths through CWS as the cooperative agency for the denominations in various ministries. Relief, reconstruction and resettlement services are constantly rendered through the Central Department of Church World Service of the National Council of Churches.

In disasters and emergencies, CWS brings its ministries of relief and reconstruction. In Korea recently tragedy struck. Floods took 230 lives and made more than one hundred thousand people destitute. Some 2,000 homes were destroyed and many times that number damaged. Entire villages were swept away and flood waters destroyed crops on 247,900 acres, bringing threat of famine. Voluntary groups helped to meet the situation promptly. Korean Church World Service cooperating with CWS distributed 994,220 pounds of food and 110,000 pounds of clothing. For the months ahead they assumed the responsibility for providing rations for 60,000 persons and have ordered 10,000,000 pounds of food to implement the program. Similar ministries of mercy have been rendered through CWS on the island of Sumba, Indonesia, in face of famine, elsewhere in Indonesia to assist thousands of Dutch refugees, and in India, Ceylon, Timor, Java, Belgium, Greece and elsewhere in other ways.

Part of the contributions to CWS is spent each year in processing, shipping and distributing millions of pounds of clothing given by U.S. Christians in their churches. Another part of the contributions is used in operating the Share Our Surplus program in which U.S. surplus foods - cheese, dried milk, bread, flour, cornmeal -- are distributed free to hungry people. It is planned to distribute in 1958, more than 300,000,000 pounds of food, worth between \$30,000,000 and \$40,000,000, but costing slightly under \$1,000,000 to distribute. So each \$1.00 contributed is worth over \$30.00 and distributes over 300 pounds of food. Assistance to orphanages and hospitals, tuberculosis and other health projects, programs to teach new skills and introduce new vocations -- thus helping people to help themselves -- are supported as vital parts of the churches' ministries abroad.

In resettlement, Immigration Services in CWS offer hope to homeless people for a new life in the United States and provide valuable services for the denominations related to CWS, cooperating with them to restore peace of soul and a sense of belonging and dignity for thousands yearly. Protestant and Orthodox Churches, working through this program of CWS, have resettled more than 100,000 refugees in the U.S. since World War II.

The chairman of CWS, Harper Sibley, recently said that through the United Appeal and the ministries it supports, it is our great privilege "to give witness throughout the free world to the traditional fellowship of our people for their neighbors overseas and to our rededication to the principles of Christian brotherhood and democracy."

"POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE SPACE AGE"

The Executive Committee of the United Student Christian Council has issued a message to the Student Christian Movement entitled "Political Responsibility in the Space Age." It was sent out at the close of the USCC session at St. Louis, on December 8, 1957. The United Student Christian Council "is an ecumenical federation of twelve nationally organized intercollegiate student Christian movements and nine college work agencies of the major Protestant churches in the United States."

The statement is prefaced by calling attention to the development of missiles and space satellites and the gradual conquering of space. These startling developments, it is noted, have produced a new political environment in which "moral questions...have increased in complexity to the point that we are not often even sure of the proper questions to ask." The "questionable" image Americans have had of themselves has been badly shaken by the Soviet Union. Response to Russian successes "ranges from rededication to science, and an exaltation of the technical man, to outright rejection of science, and a blind turning to irrelevant faiths." The Executive Committee sees "a real threat that education ...may become dominated by narrow technological objectives, and that the broad liberal arts education of the whole man will decline, making it even more difficult to speak to one another across lines of specialization."

The Executive Committee of the USCC tried to face this political situation, the message states, attempting to respond in student attitudes on political responsibility in the space age. It issued the following statement to its member movements:

- " 1. The terrible threat of the present political and scientific situation is precisely its power to intimidate and silence us; in short, to dehumanize us. We are tempted by it to abdicate our responsibility to think and decide for ourselves. The student apathy to political questions is a serious and ominous warning.
- " 2. We believe that God rules even this vast sea of political problems. In Christ we see how he rules it... There, long ago on a cross, He established and announced a new kind of kingdom in which man finds himself in responsibility and service to his brother. If we retreat from the world of politics which God has entered, we simply refuse to be His followers."
- " 3. Before us doubtless lies a struggle for prestige and political power in which the key will be technical competence and the technical man. Already there are signs that this struggle can be used to distract us from the great human problems of living together here and now. We ask whether, even in this technical age, the fundamental political questions do not remain those related to hunger, segregation, and the exploitation of weaker nations by the stronger.
- " 4. We believe that facing the problems of politics is a way of calling our fellow-students out of their apathy and paralysis into Christian decision and human responsibility....The cross speaks to us from the midst of the world's politics. The resurrection reveals the strength and conquering power of the cross's message. Christian disciples will hallow the Lord's name by meeting their crucified and risen Lord in grateful decision, responsibility, and service where he first chose to meet us - in the depth of this world's political confusion."

MORE PERSPECTIVE ON SATELLITES

"THE MOON IS UP," a brief but eloquent editorial in the New York Post of February 3, 1958, observed that the launching of the U.S. satellite should help greatly to restore balance and perspective both at home and abroad. The Soviet breakthrough was a psychological triumph, the Post observed, and it was expected that the U.S. achievement would "curb the defeatism and desperation that Moscow's Sputnik induced among so many free men."

But the editorial warned against a "rebirth of national arrogance" and said significantly: "The test of our time is whether scientific achievement will be harnessed to progress or destruction. Man's conquest of outer space opens infinite new possibilities for our age."

"But these dreams can only end as nightmares if outer space simply becomes a larger battlefield for nations hell-bent for mutual annihilation." The editorial concludes, "We did not believe the World had ended when the Russian Sputnik leaped into space. We do not believe the world's problems have been solved by the American achievement. Russian and American scientists alike have displayed their genius. The great question is whether statesmanship can rise to the challenge offered by science."

Pogo, speaking of space and humans said recently to his companion Albert: "The other thing you could do besides defend the moon durin' this G.O. Fizzickle year is, do somethin' to protect PEOPLE".

"DEDICATE THE DAY TO THE INTER-AMERICAN WAY"

A letter recently received from Jose' A. Mora, Secretary-General of the Pan American Union, reminds us that April 14 is Pan American Day and on this annual occasion nations of the Western Hemisphere "renew inter-American friendships and...reaffirm support of the peaceful, constructive inter-American way of relations among nations."

After February 15, the Pan American Day Packet for 1958 will be available from the Office of Public Relations, Pan American Union, Washington 6, D.C. It is designed for use by group leaders. The packet contains the following materials:

1. A three-color poster, 11 x 14 inches, in the four official languages.
2. Youth Dedicates the Day to the Inter-American Way! "A folder of action photos (captioned in four languages) showing outstanding program and classroom features in schools and colleges."
3. Pan American Week (April 14-20) Panorama - "A pictorial 'round-up' of community and club programs throughout the Americas with captions in four languages."
4. This is the OAS - "A clear, visual explanation of the OAS (Organization of American States). Useful as a teaching aid, for exhibits, etc. A panel folder in color, 36 x 8 inches."

The Organization of American States, having all 21 American Republics as members, uses the Pan American Union in Washington as its Secretariat. The Pan American Union also functions as a center for the exchange of information and for inter-American cooperation in many fields. Secretary-General Mora writes in his letter: "The OAS promotes cultural relations, settlement of international disputes, mutual defense and social and economic cooperation among its twenty-one member States. Field offices and centers for programs in public health, housing, agriculture, child welfare, education and statistics are scattered throughout the hemisphere."

"GREAT DECISION... 1958"

"At no time since the end of World War II has the world situation been so fluid as it is on the threshold of 1958" writes Vera Micheles Dean in the introduction to the "Headline Series" pamphlet #126, What Should U.S. Do in a Changing World? (New York 17: Foreign Policy Association, 345 E. 46th St. - 35 cents). It contains eight comprehensive, analytical articles by specialists in various aspects of international affairs.

Thomas P. Whitney, foreign news analyst of AP, writes from considerable experience in the Soviet Union on a vital topic: "Can We Deal With Russia?" He concludes that "the Non-Communist World cannot 'trust' the Soviet government," but must seek agreements that are self-enforcing or enforced by "specific and fool-proof machinery." Pressures for such agreement in disarmament, and other fields, are building up for there has been a relaxation of tension in the world due to changes in Russia since Stalin's death. At present he is content to say "There is no short-cut to peace, but peace now seems by no means a vain hope."

A provocative article on the complicated armaments question entitled "What Security in the Rocket Age?" is supplied by Walter Millis, member of the staff of the Fund for the Republic, and a military historian.

The problems an emerging United Europe poses for the United States and for NATO are presented in "United Europe - Partner or Rival?" Ben T. Moore, Associate Director of the Twentieth Century Fund and former Director of the office of European Regional Affairs of the Department of State, is author.

On the Middle East, J. C. Hurewitz, Associate Professor of International Relations in the Near and Middle East Institute at Columbia University, takes up nationalism, East-West pressures, oil, and power politics in "Middle East - New U.S. Responsibility?"

Harry R. Rudin, Professor of History at Yale University, in "Awakening Africa - Promise or Threat?" discusses the U.S. dilemma in being involved on both sides of the colonial issue - "through a wartime commitment to the cause of freedom for Africans and through the expediency that dictates the need for allies against international Communism."

An interesting, useful reply to "What kind of foreign economic policy should the United States have in the contemporary changing world?" is forthcoming from Forrest D. Murden, economist, teacher and writer on international topics, who served as adviser with the U.S. Delegation to the U.N. under both Democratic and Republican administrations. His article: "What U.S. Economic Policy for Survival?"

William Henderson, Far Eastern staff specialist of the Council on Foreign Relations, writes from first-hand Asian experience on "Should U.S. Trade with Red China?" He says: "Something must be done about our China policy. The United States is out on a limb that is breaking off. Our posture is alienating us from much of Asia and driving a wedge between ourselves and our closest allies. Perhaps most important of all, it has not proved an effective deterrent to Peiping's diplomatic strides in Asia. Somehow we must find a way out of the dead-end into which our China policy has led us."

A succinct tracing of major developments at the U.N. from the U.S. point of view is presented by Kathleen Teltsch, member of the United Nations Bureau of The New York Times since 1946, in the chapter, "Whose U.N. Is It?"

As usual with "Headline Series," discussion questions, a brief bibliography, and list of visual aids follow each article. In addition, this "GREAT DECISIONS...1958" issue is complemented by nine fact sheets (15 cents each; \$1.00 per set) which correspond to the eight articles noted above. The ninth is titled "What Challenges and Opportunities for the U.S. in 1958?" These fact sheets are structured for group discussion and contain graphs, pictures, maps, and an opinion ballot.

RESOURCES: SOME RECENT UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATIONS

The United Nations in Brief: A free copy of this pamphlet may be had by addressing a postal card to the Public Inquiries Unit, United Nations, New York. The bulk rate is \$3.50 per hundred. The United Nations in Brief describes in summary form the work done in securing peace, economic progress, improving social conditions, helping refugees, aiding needy children, promoting human rights, controlling narcotic drugs, assisting dependent peoples, and building for the world rule of law. A brief statement on how the U.N. is financed is included. A listing of the specialized agencies related to the U.N. and brief statements on the functions of each completes the pamphlet.

Organs of the United Nations. This chart may be obtained from the Public Inquiries Unit, United Nations, New York. 10 cents. This useful black and white chart, 21 x 15 inches, provides a schematic diagram of all the organs of the United Nations including the special committees of the General Assembly, the specialized agencies, the regional economic commissions of the Economic and Social Council as well as the main agencies - the General Assembly, Security Council, Secretariat, Trusteeship Council, International Court, and Economic and Social Council.

Disarmament and the United Nations: The "Partial Measures" Approach and other decisions of the General Assembly's Twelfth Session. (A reprint from the United Nations Review). New York 27: International Documents Service, Columbia University Press, 2960 Broadway. 25 cents. This pamphlet discusses the attitudes of various nations toward the six priority measures on disarmament suggested by the Disarmament Sub-Committee of the First Committee of the U.N. General Assembly. It presents the developments leading to the enlargement of the Disarmament Commission to twenty-five members. Also included is a report on the Disarmament Sub-Committee meetings held in London last year. An evaluation of the First Committee's (Political and Security) recommendations to the 12th General Assembly and a printing of "Resolutions adopted by the Assembly" on the subject of disarmament complete the pamphlet.

Helping Economic Development in Asia and the Far East: The work of ECAFE. New York 27: International Documents Service, Columbia University Press, 2960 Broadway. 15 cents. The work of one of the three U.N. regional commissions - the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) is presented in this publication. The membership of ECAFE is described; and the work of ECAFE in industrial development, iron and steel production, trade and finance, transport, flood control and water resources development, agriculture, research, and technical training and assistance is briefly treated.

Helping South East Asia to Help Itself - (A reprint from the United Nations Review). New York 27: International Documents Service, Columbia University Press, 2960 Broadway. 25 cents. This is a survey of U.N. Technical Assistance programs in India, Ceylon, Pakistan, Vietnam, Nepal, Burma, and the Philippines. The booklet contains a brief, but useful selected and annotated bibliography.

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